The Times-Dispatch

Business Office.....816 E. Main Street.
South Richmond.....1029 Hull Street.
Petersburg Bureau....109 N. Sycamore Street.
Lynchburg Bureau.....215 Eighth Street.

BY MAIL. POSTAGE PAID	One Year.	Six Mos.	Three Mos.	One Mo.
Daily with Sunday	$6.00	$3.00	$1.50	.50
Daily without Sunday	4.00	2.00	1.00	.35
Sunday edition only	2.00	1.00	.50	.17
Weekly (Wednesday)	1.00	.50	.25	...

By Times-Dispatch Carrier Delivery Service in Richmond (and suburbs) and Petersburg—

	One Week
Daily with Sunday	15 cents
Daily without Sunday	10 cents
Sunday only	5 cents

Entered January 27, 1905, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 1912.

THINKING BACK.

Without committing itself to the wisdom or unwisdom of the proposed seventeenth amendment to the Constitution, providing for direct election of United States Senators, the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times suggests that the smaller States might as well make up their minds that if it is adopted it will mark the beginning of a movement to change the basis of representation in the Senate—that is to say, a movement to base senatorial representation on population. The Gazette-Times could have more accurately suggested the revival of a movement to that end. For there was such a movement, led by the larger States and fought by the smaller, in the convention that framed the Constitution; and it came very near causing a dissolution of the body. Virginia, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, the foremost States in population, were especially wedded to the principle of majority rule, and Mr. Madison was particularly tenacious in advocacy of it.

During the heated debate on the subject, and when the convention was practically at a deadlock, a way out was pointed by Roger Sherman, of Connecticut. "We are now," he exclaimed, "at a full stop. Nobody, I suppose, means that we shall break up without doing something. A committee is likely to hit upon some expedient." Clason, in his "Seven Conventions," says:

"A committee was appointed; it reported July 5 a compromise, 'that in the second branch each State shall have an equal vote.' On the 16th that part of the report was carried by a vote of five States to four. Massachusetts, being divided, did not count; New York, not present, was sure to be added to the majority, and New Hampshire, not yet represented, was equally to be relied upon. Next day Gouverneur Morris moved a reconsideration, which was not seconded, and the nice question of an equitable division of the political powers among the States, which had so long hampered the convention, was at rest. The wisdom of the decision became every day more apparent, until the equal vote of the States in the Senate was spontaneously excepted from the power of amendment."

The use of the word compromise has a more comprehensive meaning in this connection than appears on its immediate face, since, apart from the contention over basis of representation, there was a great difference of opinion as to the mode of electing Senators, their terms of service and the rule of suffrage. Some were in favor of nomination by the State Legislatures and an election by the United States House of Representatives; others would have the President appoint from those nominated by the State Legislatures; others would have the Senators "chosen" by the House of Representatives, and others still urged election by the people. The first proposition was the "Virginia plan," the phraseology of the resolution in the plan being "that the members of the second branch of the national Legislature ought to be elected by those of the first, out of a proper number of persons nominated by the individual Legislatures." It will thus be seen that the fathers threshed out very completely the whole senatorial problem, including direct election; that they weighed and passed judgment upon the proposed seventeenth amendment by anticipating.

Coming back to the issue of representation in the Senate and its basis, we quote Andrews on the Constitution as throwing further interesting light upon the critical situation in the convention. One of his expository notes reads:

"The question of voting was the most difficult. As in the Continental Congress the States were on an equality as to their votes, the smaller States wished the same rule to hold under the Constitution, while the larger States claimed that an equality of votes in either house would be unjust. The smaller States finally conceded that in the House of Representatives the number of members should be in proportion to population, but they insisted that in the Senate the States should be equal. But the larger States insisted on proportional representation in the Senate as well as in the House, and the Committee of the Whole reported 'That the right of suffrage in the second branch of the national Legislature ought to be according to the rule established for the first.' This report was adopted by the convention; but the matter was subsequently referred to a committee of one from each State, which reported the rule as it now stands. The final vote was: Affirmative—Connecticut, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, North Carolina—5; negative—Pennsylvania, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia—4; Massachusetts, divided. 'So that this greatest and most difficult of all the important questions which the convention was called upon to solve was carried by less than a majority of the States present, and by the concurrence of less than one-third of the represented population.'"

Clason tells us that Wilson, of Pennsylvania, and Madison were not only disappointed at the course of the convention in adopting "the rule as it stands," but bitterly dissatisfied, and did not attempt to conceal their feelings. Andrews, in commenting on Madison's strong opposition to "the principle finally adopted," calls attention to the fact that in a letter to Sparks, the Virginian observed that the Gordian knot of the convention was the question between the larger and smaller States as to the rule of voting in the Senate, the latter claiming, the former opposing, the rule of equality. Whether it would be wise or unwise to amend, as proposed, the constitutional provision for the election of Senators, it might be well to think back in considering the issue. In the light of the debate upon and the decision of the convention of 1787 on the point, it might be well to take counsel of our heritage from the fathers, before proceeding precipitately.

OHIO.

"Can Taft carry Ohio?"

That is the question which will be answered to-day. It is not so much a question as to whether Roosevelt will win as whether Taft will lose. Taft may not actually need Ohio's votes; his political managers say that he does not, almost as if they concede h's defeat and wish to discount it in anticipation. Taft must carry his native State if he would renew confidence throughout the country in his campaign. Taft realizes this, as is plainly evidenced by the desperate fight he has been making. He has brought every inch of his strength and power to bear on Ohio.

No prophecy of the result is worth the paper it is written on; the lines are too close and the issue too uncertain. There have been no signs that could forecast anything; there is neither thread nor clue to the outcome. Both Taft and Roosevelt were heard by great crowds; apparently they have inspired equal attendance and equal enthusiasm. There is nothing to indicate the result.

The vote to-day may not be pivotal in so far as it concerns Taft, but it will make or mar for good and all the chance of Judson Harmon for the Democratic nomination. To-day's result either eliminates him or puts him in the running. He has now but 7 votes, while Clark has 302, Wilson 197, Underwood 85, Marshall 30, Baldwin 14, and Burke 10. If Harmon carries Ohio, he will have fifty-five votes, which will put him ahead of Marshall and in the same class with Underwood. The Democratic result is as much wrapped in mystery as that of the Republicans.

About all that can be said now is that Taft and Harmon are in very dangerous position.

JUDGE CRUMP'S DECISION.

Of the opinion that affirmative action on his part would be improper interference with the shaping of the organic law of the State, Judge Crump, of the Law and Equity Court, yesterday refrained from passing upon the constitutionality of the act of the General Assembly of 1912 in resubmitting to the vote of the people the constitutional amendments removing the limitations of the State Constitution upon the terms of city treasurers and city commissioners of the revenue. The case went off on other grounds which, if adopted by the Supreme Court of Appeals, will postpone the test of the validity of the statute until the people have voted upon the proposed amendments. When the act came before him, Governor Mann found that he could not pass upon it; when it came before Judge Crump, he found that he should not; and so it may come about that the people will be the first to pass upon the question, and if they kill these amendments, as in right and good conscience they should, the matter will be settled, and city treasurers and city commissioners will, it is to be hoped, lose their day in court.

After all, the issue at stake is political rather than legal. Whether the act is constitutional or not, it was forced through the General Assembly in a manner which was at once disgraceful and destructive of popular government. The question of legality is one for the courts; the question for the people is: Shall the Plunderbund rule? Are the Virginia people going to stand for a lot of fat and opulent officeholders who ran private legislation down while legislation for the people is stifled and thrown upon the ash heap? Is a powerful lobby more powerful than the people themselves? Are legislators to be mere tools of the Plunderbund, obedient to the crook of its greedy fingers and kissing its slimy feet? Are the people to send representatives to the General Assembly or are the courthouse rings to send their owned, subservient slaves?

The people passed upon this proposition in 1910. They will resent the attempt of the officeholders to upset and destroy the people's will. The voters know that the officeholders have jockeyed the Constitution of 1902 along until now, when they are at the end of the string and are resorting to desperate second-story work. The courts cannot consider these things; their function in such a case is to consider legality alone and not morality or propriety. It is left for the people to make the officeholders come to time; the people will not act so much as arbiters as fighters for their own rights. The case of the People vs. the Plunderbund will be decided in November, and in the meantime it is up to the friends of the people, in the ranks of the press and out of it, who have fought for decent government to help the people to teach the officeholders their proper place in the government of Virginia. There are not many officeholders in proportion to the people, but their resources are powerful, and their influence great with the forces that forever seek to put the patriot on the scaffold and the putty-man upon the throne.

WHAT AN AUDITORIUM MEANS.

Another boost has been given to the project for a city auditorium in Richmond by the movement started by business men and the Virginia Railway and Power Company to use the Horse Show Building and grounds for this purpose. The merits of this particular proposal we do not know, but anything that promises this greatly needed adjunct to Richmond's civic life is a good thing. Just to keep the idea alive in the minds of the people is worth while. Then, after a time, they will want the building and go ahead and build it.

The arguments are manifold and unanswerable. The single question is the raising of the money. A large and commodious auditorium is recognized by other cities as a business asset. Denver, Kansas City and smaller towns have built huge structures just for the purpose of drawing to them big gatherings and conventions of all kinds. In some it has been thought a good investment to spend several hundred thousand dollars to secure the presidential conventions of the national parties. The money drawn into the town from outside sources and left there permanently is regarded as a handsome dividend on the original outlay. In addition to this is the return in reputation, fame for being a live, progressive city, and the advertising of all kinds that naturally accrues.

But the business conception of the auditorium as a place to which you can invite big gatherings from outside and so help the community is not so important and vital as the conception embodied in the admirable suggestion of the Wednesday Club that a hall be built to furnish a suitable and dignified staging for the festival concerts and other musical and dramatic spectacles that will be held here in constantly increasing numbers. From this point of view the auditorium is not for strangers; it is for home folks. It is a great central gathering place to which the people of the whole city can come to hear music, listen to addresses, or just talk over among themselves the most important thing in the world, the affairs and future of their home town. It has about it something of the old-time town hall idea. It would belong to the people and be used by them for the manifold purposes by which the organic community life manifests itself. It would be an advertisement for Richmond to the world, and prepare us to entertain any and all bodies from all parts of the country. It would put the city in the class of metropolises that are big enough to reach out and seize outside opportunity. And, best of all, it would provide a home for all those local and social and artistic endeavors that lend beauty and charm to life in large cities.

The auditorium ought to be built. We need it for ourselves. It might be put in the most central location conceivable—the old Ford Hotel property—and be an ornament and a blessing to the city at large. But wherever it is put, it should be "put"—not too large, nor too expensive, but sufficient to make itself felt as an uplift force in Greater Richmond.

THE CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL INSTITUTE.

At last, at last the corner-stone of the Confederate Memorial Institute has been laid true, and the voices of those who have been impatient and restless have been hushed for a season. The remnants of the immortal gray host who have complained that they might not live to see their great memorial hall erected can now console themselves with the hope that some day a roof will shelter the stone laid yesterday; that before the last tottering survivor shall draw his final labored breath, the dream may be realized in stone and mortar and the prophecy of the planners fulfilled.

The authorities in charge selected wisely at last when they chose the site at last. The Confederate Hall of Fame will at least be in a suitable and proper spot, placed in some degree of correlation to the other Confederate memorials of Richmond, and not hidden away on the brow of a vast ash-heap or in some other ugly and forbidding spot. The Times-Dispatch fought for the change of the site to the West End, and is glad that the Confederate Memorial Institute is to be located where it can be the cynosure of all eyes.

It's a wonder that amazing youth up in Paterson, N. J., who ate forty-two cream puffs didn't puff out his light in the process.

Summer has undoubtedly come. The first sea-serpent story is going the rounds. On the enchanted coast of Long Island a cowboy lassoed a whale. We should say the whole story was a whale.

Only one more month till Teddy
Will or will not be our king;
But by that time we'll be ready
To call Columbus—anything!

The new 3-cent piece might make the mathematics of tips a little easier for a sensitive man.

The thing we'd like to write poetry to nowadays is not any girl, or mint julep, or moonshine, but to that good old shady side of the street.

When people subscribe to Petersburg, do they get all the back numbers?

Ty Cobb has bolted!

Strawberries are getting pretty fresh if we can judge by the noise they make on the streets.

On the Spur of the Moment

By Roy K. Moulton

The Cannibal King.

The fates are kind to the Cannibal king,
And life to him is a real soft thing.
He worries not over the change in style,
For his main attire is a winning smile.
He's the sovereign of a sun-kissed land,
Where weather is always simply grand.
He owes no bill for a new spring suit,
And he wears a string for a robe de nuit.
His wives don't hanker for new spring hats,
And clothes cause him no domestic spats.
He doesn't spend all he makes on coal,
And prices high don't disturb his soul.
The cost of living is an unsung song,
For tourists will always happen along.
Do you wonder, folks, at the pleasant smile,
Of the reigning King of the Cannibal Isle?

Caught on the Fly.

King Alfonso has quarreled with his queen, which shows that there is just about as much human nature in some married couples as there is in others, if not a little more.

Reports from Boston state that coppers are not strong. But it seems as though they would have to be in order to lift some people into the patrol wagon.

There are nearly 8,000 Johnsons in Chicago. That family seems to be gradually getting a corner on the vital statistics.

Champ Clark is now president of a Greek letter fraternity, which is better than not being president at all.

The engagement of Lillian Russell has been announced. Then not all of the men had married her after all.

Of course, it will be said those Havemeyer children are born with sugar spoons in their mouths.

Rare Specimens.

Sign painters who know how to spell.

Undertakers who do not have a sense of humor.

Society grand dames who can speak the English language.

Man who has been to Europe and doesn't talk about it.

Country ministers who do not wear white lawn ties.

Book agents who do not wear rubber heels.

Bald-headed man who doesn't know a dozen hair remedies.

Prize-fighter who doesn't believe he can "come back."

Personal.

Louis—There is no use in leaving dog biscuits lying around your office. The life insurance agents won't eat them. Try a spring gun on your office door.

Bill—There is only way to get shirts cheaper than by watching the advertisements in this paper, and that is to watch the neighbors' clothesline.

Margaret—You ask why the blondes are most popular with the young men. It is because, of course, 'All's fair in love."

J. H. T.—The most original show we ever saw was an "Uncle Tom's Cabin" with two Little Evas and two heavens.

Women.

They're saucy and they're fickle and
They're mighty hard to please.
We have to cater to them all
Upon our bended knees.
They're flighty and inquisitive,
Exasperatin', too,
And every man must find it out
Somehow before he's through.
They reason with a suddenness
That makes a fellow jump,
And they don't find it hard at all
To make him look a chump.

They cannot give a reason for
A single thing they do.
They jump at a conclusion with
No valid cause in view.
They're fussy and they're frivolous;
Sometimes it seems that way.
They're tender and they're heartless, and
They're mournful and they're gay,
They're prudish and they're reckless, and
In faults they all abound.
They cost a lot of money, but
They're nice to have around.

Some Engine, This.

In this, the day of large locomotives, when there seems no limit to the size they may attain, the following "extravaganza," which was handed to a reporter by a railroad man, may prove of interest. We must admit that we like a good lie, but this pleases us a bit too well:

The largest locomotive in the world is in South Africa. It has five acres of grate bars and four acres of netting in the smoke box. It takes a man a day and a half to walk through one of its cylinders. They have an elevator running up to the headlight, and it takes ten barrels of oil to fill it. It takes two men forty-five minutes to light one signal light, and it took fifteen carpenters nine months to build the pilot. They have a steam shovel to give her coal. The tender holds ninety-seven carloads of coal. Every time she exhausts it rains for thirty minutes. The engineer uses a searchlight to look out for signals, and goes blind after running six months. It takes two astronomers with powerful telescopes to see her going. The pony wheels are the size of monster turn tables in this country, and a section of the Pacific cable is used for the bell cord. It takes forty-eight hours for one of the sparks to fall and it is a meteor when it strikes the earth. When the whistle blows it causes an epidemic of deafness in Australia. Monster trees of the forest have been broken by the wind from the train. She runs from Kimberly to Johannesburg, 900 miles, in an hour and twenty minutes, making her own tunnels as she goes. She hauls 1,742 cars, and the roundhouse force hold their annual picnic in her fire box every summer. When they wash her boiler it is necessary to drain the Suez Canal. She carries 1,860 pounds of steam and 940 pounds of air. The throttle is pulled by a stationary engine in the cab. The lubricator holds fourteen barrels of oil. When she leaves the rails there is an earthquake in China four days later. The train goes so fast that when it stops she is still going ten miles an hour. The glare of the headlight can be seen through a hill half a mile thick. When she takes water she dries an ordinary lake and lowers the water level of the ocean several feet.

It is thought that this locomotive was originally reported by Roosevelt either in h's hunting trip south, or while hounding the "big interests."—Exchange.

Abe Martin

Next t' incubators ther seems t' be more different kinds o' planners than anything else, unless it's Republicans. It's almost impossible t' make a clerk understand what you want if he hasn't got it.

DO YOUR SWATTING EARLY.

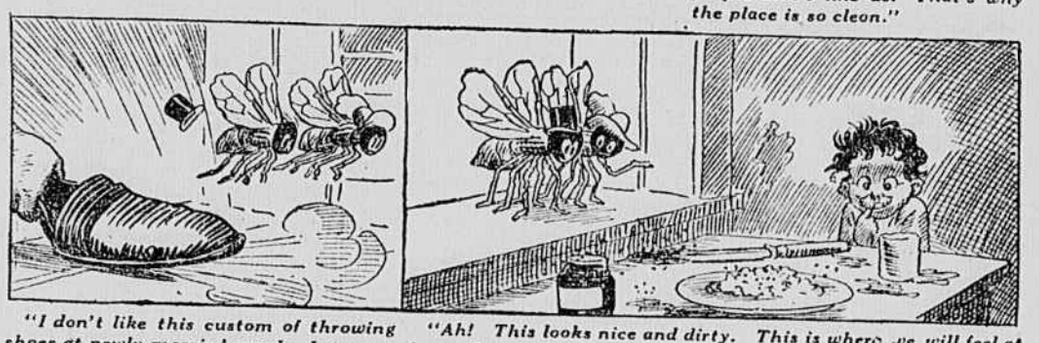
By John T. McCutcheon.

[Copyright: 1912: By John T. McCutcheon.]

A May wedding.

"Come fly with me and we'll pick out a nice dirty house to live in."

"This looks too clean. We can't live in a place that's clean. The people don't like us. That's why the place is so cleon."



"I don't like this custom of throwing shoes at newly married people. Let us go elsewhere. Let us go to Swatless Town."

"Ah! This looks nice and dirty. This is where we will feel at home."

Mr. Fly has a pleasant dream of days to come when he will be surrounded by billions of bouncing little flies.

But a vigilant boy scout swats him and he is no more. One swat in May is worth a million in September.

Moral—A swat in time saves 900,000,000 swats four months later.

Voice of the People

An Elective Executive Committee.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—Much interest is being manifested throughout the State, regarding the probable action of the Democratic State Convention which meets in Norfolk on May 23.

There is one irregularity in the Virginia Democratic organization which the State convention should, and doubtless will, rectify, viz: the method of choosing the executive committee.

This executive committee should be composed of a member from each of the ten congressional district committees—preferably the chairman of each district committee. In this way every congressional district in the State will have a voice in the selection of the membership of the executive committee, i. e., each congressional district would elect its own member or appoint its own chairman, who would be ex-officio a member of the executive committee from that district. At present the chairman of the State committee appoints the ten members of the executive committee, all of whom, if he saw fit, could be appointed from one county or city.

It is proposed therefore to change the first paragraph in clause 3 of the organization, to read as follows: There shall be an executive committee, composed of the chairmen of the respective congressional district committees, who shall be ex-officio a member of said executive committee, unless said district committee shall otherwise elect a member.

The present plan of imposing upon the State chairman the duty and responsibility of appointing such an important committee is unjust to the chairman and unfair to the rank and file of the party, and is a serious defect in the plan of organization which the coming convention should remedy.

Speaking as an individual who believes that the people should rule, this convention should send to the National Democratic Convention this at Baltimore, delegates who are in thorough accord with the progressive policies outlined and advocated by the progressive element of the national Democratic party. We should certainly indorse, and perhaps instruct the nomination of, a progressive presidential candidate on a progressive platform. Virginia Democracy don't want any "soft-pedal" reactionaries to misrepresent her in the national convention. A large per cent. of delegates elected will come to Norfolk uninstructed both as to policies and candidates, and it is expected of them by their constituency that they will see to the election of such delegates to the national convention and the adoption of such resolutions as will put Virginia on record in that convention as a progressive State. Otherwise we, the people, may lose if we win.

Space forbids the discussion of any issues, but prominent among the many popular measures opposed by predatory interests may be mentioned: Election of United States Senators by the people; parcels post delivery; Federal aid to road building; one cent letter postage, downward revision of the tariff, etc., etc.

The Republican administration has been a disappointment to the rank and file of that party, and the present campaign is not only an education to the masses, but is an "eye-opener" to those who believe the President can do no wrong. Certain interests do not want a man as President; they prefer a dummy. Patriotic and progressive Americans want a patriotic and progressive President; one whose environment and whose experience render him capable of appreciating the needs of the people. Let us hope the Norfolk convention will indorse or instruct for such a candidate.

Theoretically our government is ideal. But it will never be perfect in its practical administration until we discontinue the election to office of those who regard the government as a private institution to be manipulated in the interest of the few and to the detriment of the many. Of the measures proposed by that class perhaps none deserve or will receive more bitter opposition than the scheme suggested by Aldrich and advocated by his ilk for fastening upon this nation a financial policy that may make industrial conditions more intolerable here than in Russia and other European countries.

The greatest evil which threatens the American people to-day is "Morganism."

J. CLOYD BYARS.

Norfolk.

Southern Sentiment Overworked?

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—It is not difficult to understand how the Confederate veterans and their sister organization, the Daughters of the Confederacy, watch so closely the different histories of the United States introduced into the public school system. We commend most strongly their desire and effort to guard forever the eternal principles and the sacred convictions for which so large a number of Southern men and women suffered, bled and died. Of course, the text books dealing with these principles and convictions should be thoroughly investigated and their inaccuracies or misstatements should be exposed and corrected, and, if necessary, the books containing them should be debarred from the schools of the South. This has been done in many instances, and histories giving the Southern side have been introduced. This action does not necessarily mean that we get any better histories of the United States, but we doubtless get a more accurate and pleasing history of the Southern section of the United States. If we must have a biased, one-sided history of our country, why we of the South prefer, naturally, the Southern side. As a matter of fact, it is doubtful that either side would or could write a history entirely satisfactory to the other side. So it appears that we must get or adopt a somewhat one-sided history of the United States. It seems also that it would be wise then to choose that history that is least biased or one-sided, and that gives the best and most accurate general history of the United States, whether the author be a Northerner or a Southerner.

After all, the accounts and discussions of the facts and causes of the Civil War have been the occasion for almost all our change of text books on United States history, and right at this point is where a remedy should be applied.

There is a remedy, and the Confederate veterans could inaugurate plans for effectively applying it. The remedy is found in getting the Confederate veterans to supervise the compilation of a pamphlet setting forth accurately and correctly the facts and causes of this war, as honestly seen from the Southern side, giving full information as to battles and results. I say pamphlet, because it would be but a small cost to parents. This pamphlet could be put on the list of studies adopted by the public school system, and teachers could be required to teach it. With the best available general history of the United States and with this pamphlet, the history question should be allowed to rest; certainly any teacher with even ordinary ability could teach the subject satisfactorily with the above arrangement.

Now for the practical side. This everlasting changing of histories is wrong, totally wrong, and works a hardship on the very people least able to suffer it. Southern sentiment or feeling relative to the Civil War and the South's part in it, is extremely sensitive, and it is easily moved for or against histories dealing largely with the war; hence, when publishers wish to introduce a new history among the Southern schools, all that is necessary is to stir up feeling against some fact or statement in one book and lead the feeling into an appreciation of another book containing facts and statements especially favorable to some certain Southern sentiment. The change soon takes place, and on the grounds of loyalty to the South; but, again, who pays for the change? The people that can least afford it.

This is an important matter, and since the Confederate veterans are called upon to criticize and recommend histories, why do they not issue a pamphlet once and for all and settle this matter in the best and least expensive way possible?

The veterans will never be called upon again to fight men, but their true soldier spirit, the admiration of the world, must still fight all conditions that would obscure the truth or hinder right principle in its work for real progress. The truth concerning the South's part in the Civil War could be fully treated in an inexpensive pamphlet compiled by the Confederate veterans or under their supervision; with this work properly done, there would be no necessity for the useless expense of constantly changing or exchanging histories because of their varying degrees of Southern sentiment or feeling.

Southern sentiment should be protected from the commercial spirit that would abuse it.

NATHANIEL C. STARGE, Ph. B.

Petersburg.